

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated December 13, 2007 has been received and duly noted. Enclosed please find a request for a one month extension of time.

Claims 1-7 have been allowed.

Claims 8-16 were rejected as being unpatentable over Hepple in view of Tucker. The claims have been amended to more particularly define the invention and distinguish over the prior art. As noted by the Examiner, the plurality of bristles in Hepple do not solely support the brush head. Applicant does not understand the Examiner's comment that the brush in Hepple would inherently include a chemical valve as claimed, a male support member as claimed, or cantilevered support latches as claimed. None of these systems are inherent in a scrub brush. Applicant requests the Examiner explain the basis for these comments. The Examiner recognizes that the liquid supply in Hepple is not on the handle, and the bristles do not solely support the brush head when in use. The Examiner then contends that these deficiencies are cured by the Tucker reference wherein the liquid supply is on the handle.

Both the Hepple reference and the Tucker reference are directed to embodiments wherein the scrub brush bristles are rotatable about a vertical axis, as disclosed in each reference. Neither reference discloses nor suggests, however, a liquid distribution manifold for distributing liquid toward the upward facing surface and spaced between downwardly facing support bristles, as recited in amended Claim 8. Besel arguably supports a manifold, but the jets of Besel are not between the bristles, as recited in the present claim. Tucker

discloses a single jet and not a manifold. In each of these references, the location of the spray relative to the bristles is not a concern, since the bristles are powered and rotation of the bristles will rapidly distribute the liquid to various surfaces under the bristles. According to the present invention, however, the bristles solely support the weight of the head, yet a manifold is provided such that a plurality of outlet ports direct liquid between the downwardly facing support bristles. Neither of the prior art references disclose this combination, nor would the combination be obvious in view of the dissimilarities between the scrub brush as shown in the prior art and the scrub brush of the present invention.


Dependent Claim 17 was rejected as being unpatentable over Besel in view of Tucker. Again, the claim has been reviewed and amended to more particularly distinguish from the prior art. As amended, Claim 17 recites the scrub brush has a lateral centerline spaced substantially equally between the laterally opposing ends. The roller is rotatably secured to the central body portion of the brush head forward of the handle and extends laterally past the lateral centerline, such that at least a portion of the roller is substantially "centered" with respect to the weight of the scrub brush. This is inapposite to the structure of Tucker, wherein the wheels 28 are not mounted to or supported on the brush head, and are spaced laterally from rather than centered with respect to the scrub brush lateral centerline. This is also distinguishable from Besel, where again the wheels are laterally spaced from the scrub brush lateral centerline. By providing a center wheel as disclosed, the likelihood of the wheel interfering with sliding the brush so that one side of the brush is laterally under a

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Reply to Office Action of December 13, 2007

cabinet is substantially facilitative since the roller need not interfere with this operation.

In view of the above, early allowance of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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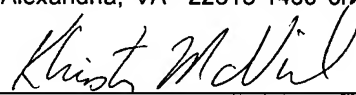
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I certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 9, 2008.



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